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DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM BACKS ISRAEL, SCORES USSR ON ANTI-SEMITISM

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J., Aug. 26. (JTA) -- The 34th Democratic Party national convention approved here last night a platform for the 1964 campaign pledging vigorous support for Israel, deploring Soviet persecution of Russian Jewry, and calling for revision of the United States Immigration and Naturalization Act to eliminate the "discriminatory" national origins quota system.

The platform also denounced extremism, "whether of the right or the left," assailing specifically "the extremist tactics of such organizations as the Communist Party, the Ku Klux Klan and the John Birch Society."

The immigration plank asserted that "the immigration laws must be revised to permit families to be reunited, to welcome the persecuted and oppressed, and to eliminate the discriminatory provisions which base admission upon national origins."

Another plank on domestic issues called for the elimination of all discrimination in the field of employment based on race, color or religion.

Near East Plank Stresses Peace, Emphasizes Desalination Project

The Near East plank pledged the party to "work for the attainment of peace in the Near East as an urgent goal, using our best efforts to prevent a military unbalance, to encourage arms reductions and the use of national resources for internal development, and to encourage the resettlement of Arab refugees where there is room and opportunity. The problems of political adjustment between Israel and the Arab countries can and must be peacefully resolved and the territorial integrity of every nation respected."

The denunciation of Soviet harassment of Jews in Russia was contained in a plank which pledged to encourage by all peaceful means the growing independence of captive peoples living under Communism, and to hasten the day when captive nations would achieve full freedom and self-determination. The plank said specifically that "we deplore Communist oppression of Jews and other minorities."

Another portion of the platform outlined the determination of the United States to aid Israel through cooperative research in the application of nuclear energy for desalting sea water.

Refers to Aid to Arabs and Israel; Cites Role of U.N. Police Force

A supplement to the platform, "An Accounting of Stewardship," which reviewed the party's accomplishments, cited the 1960 Democratic plank pledging pursuit of Arab-Israeli peace by preventing an arms imbalance. The supplement declared that this policy had brought the Arab countries and Israel "closer to peace and stability than at any time since World War II."

The platform declared: "Economic and technical assistance to Israel and Arab nations continues at a high level, although with more and more emphasis on loans as against grants; The United States is determined to help bring the revolution in the technology of desalination to the aid of the desert regions."

The platform also reviewed United States participation in the United Nations to strengthen the UN's capacity as a peace keeper, mentioning the continued UN "guard on armistice lines" in the Near East. The "guard" referred to the United Nations Emergency Force, which protects Israel from Egyptian attacks by being posted on the Egyptian side of Israel's Gaza Strip border, and along the heights of Sharm el-Cheikh, in the Sinai Desert. The latter UN outpost guarantees Israel's freedom of shipping in the Gulf of Akaba.

Two Israelis Among Invited Foreign Visitors at Convention

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J., Aug. 26. (JTA) -- The Democratic National Convention authorities said today that two Israelis were among foreign visitors attending sessions of the convention as observers.

Mrs. Tamara Hareven, of Israel sponsored by the Institute of International Education, was attending all sessions of the convention, according to the U.S. Governmental Affairs Institute. The representatives of the World Assembly of Youth included among the foreign guests, Jishai Gerson of Israel.

CLEARING JEWS OF CHRIST KILLING ON VATICAN AGENDA, RITTER SAYS

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 26. (JTA) -- The third session of the Ecumenical Council being convened at the Vatican on September 14 will definitely have before it a schema affirming the concept that all humanity, and not the Jews alone, is responsible for the crucifixion of Jesus, it was ascertained here today at the chancery of Joseph Elmer Cardinal Ritter.

The term "deicide"--Christ-killing--has been dropped from the version of the schema now ready for debate by the Ecumenical Council, it was ascertained on the authority of Cardinal Ritter, but the concept is still on the Council's agenda. At a general press conference during National Liturgical Week, here, Cardinal Ritter said:

"To my knowledge, the word 'deicide' has been removed from the schema, but the meaning that the Jewish people are not guilty of deicide, is still implied in the schema. The schema is still under discussion. It is not final. It may be that when the Council resumes the word will be returned to the schema."

AJC Sees American Prelates 'Disappointed' Over Weakened Schema

NEW YORK, Aug. 26. (JTA) -- Some leaders of the Catholic Church hierarchy in this country are seriously "disappointed" over the text in the draft schema dealing with the "deicide" charges against the Jewish people, to be presented to the next session of the Ecumenical Council at the Vatican, a high spokesman for the American Jewish Committee declared here today.

Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, national director of the interreligious affairs department of the American Jewish Committee, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency:

"We are informed reliably that there is a specific reference to the role of the Jews in the crucifixion in the draft schema. But we are informed that the formulation is weak and indecisive, when contrasted with the language contained in the version introduced at the second session of the Ecumenical Council. Catholic prelates have expressed to us their serious disappointment over this text, and have indicated their determination to restore the decree to its more decisive form, in which the concept of the collective guilt of the Jews for the crucifixion will be rectified."

FIRST ISRAELI GROUP TRAINED TO HANDLE U.S. HAWKS GRADUATES

TEL AVIV, Aug. 26. (JTA) -- The first group of Israelis sent to the United States for training in handling American-made Hawk anti-aircraft missiles has completed training, and will return to Israel within a few weeks, it was learned here today.

Several units were sent to Fort Bliss, Texas, for training in handling the supersonic missiles. Training periods ranged from three months to a year. Israel Defense Ministry officials said previously that Hawk missile units were expected to become operational in 1965. The units will be incorporated into the Israel Air Force.

JORDANIANS FREE ABDUCTED AMERICAN CITIZEN, APOLOGIZE TO U.I.I.

JERUSALEM, Aug. 26. (JTA) -- The chairman of the Israel-Jordan Mixed Armistice Commission reported yesterday that Jordanian officials had apologized for the abduction of an American student, and given assurances they would act to prevent any recurrence of such incidents.

Col. St. Onge, of the United States, the chairman, made the report at an emergency meeting of the MAC, called to discuss an Israeli complaint about the abduction of the American, Sanford Sternlicht.

The student was walking to Ramat Rahel, which is in Israel on the border, when he came in sight of a Jordanian emplacement. A Jordanian soldier pointed a rifle at him and motioned him to cross the border. Sternlicht said that the Jordanians "roughed" him up a little at first, but then treated him well when they learned he was an American.

The abduction took place Monday and he was returned to Israel on Tuesday. Israel officials learned of the abduction only after he had returned. They complained immediately to the MAC.

200 MEDICAL SCIENTISTS ATTEND ASIA-AFRICA CONGRESS IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Aug. 26. (JTA) -- Some 200 medical scientists from 14 countries assembled here today for the opening session of the Third Congress of the Asian-Pacific Society of Hematology. The sessions are being held at the Hebrew University here;

70 ISRAELI FIRMS EXHIBIT AT IZMIR FAIR; INDUSTRIES ARE FEATURED

ISTANBUL, Aug. 26. (JTA) -- Israel today opened her pavilion at the International Izmir Trade Fair. Among those attending the opening ceremonies was the Turkish Minister of Trade and Housing. Some 70 Israeli firms are represented with exhibits featuring industrial goods.

UNRWA PLANS TO TAKE RATION CARDS FROM DEAD ARAB 'REFUGEES'

JERUSALEM, Aug. 26. (JTA) -- A dispute has developed between the Jordan Government and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees, over possible changes in the issuance of UNRWA ration cards to Arab refugees, according to reports today in the Arab press:

Jordanian Premier Bahjat al Talhouni said in Amman that his Government would oppose any "compromise of the refugees' rights." He said that Dr. Seifeddin al Kilani, Jordan's representative on the Advisory Commission of UNRWA, was going to Beirut to attend a meeting of the group there tomorrow, of the committee.

The Jordanian Premier issued his warning in comment on a declaration attributed to Laurence Michelmores, UNRWA Commissioner-General. The latter was quoted as having said he would propose, in his report to the UN, the elimination of UNRWA ration cards.

UNRWA issued a statement at its headquarters in Beirut, criticizing "the unauthorized and misleading disclosure" of material attributed to Mr. Michelmores's report. The agency said the report was still in the drafting stage, and had not yet been considered by the Advisory Committee.

The statement added that UNRWA "should not go on wasting funds on issuing rations to thousands of persons who were dead or absent," and that the contemplated changes were aimed at taking rations "away from those who did not need them" so that they could be "given to those who did."

Over the years since UNRWA started operating, in 1950, there have been constant complaints, especially by members of the American Congress, that there are many dead -- estimated at about 50,000 -- listed among the UNRWA ration card holders. The United States pays 70 per cent of UNRWA's annual costs.

TEL AVIV GARBAGE COLLECTORS STRIKE; MAYOR APPEALS TO PUBLIC

TEL AVIV, Aug. 26. (JTA) -- A strike by the 800 garbage collectors of Tel Aviv went into its seventh day today, with no early settlement in sight.

The deadlock stemmed in part from a dispute between the strikers' committee and two other parties to the dispute, the City and the Municipal Employees Association. The strikers' principal demand is for "extra effort" pay, like that given in the building trades and in road transport. The strikers have demanded three pounds (\$1) a day in such extra pay, but have said they would settle for less if the City and the Histadrut, Israel's Labor Federation, would accept the principle.

Meir Silberman, secretary of the Municipal Employees Association, said that the claims would be adjusted as soon as new municipal grades were put into effect. Mayor Mordechai Namir called on the public to remove its own garbage, but debris was piled high in municipal markets.

ISRAEL CONTINUES TO TEST SYSTEM BRINGING WATER FROM JORDAN

TEL AVIV, Aug. 26. (JTA) -- Israel's National Water Carrier, the vast irrigation project tapping the Jordan River through Lake Tiberias, was reported here today to be in continuous test operation.

Previously, Israeli officials had reported two brief tests of various parts of the huge system. Water is now being pumped continuously by the two functioning pumps, though both are not in operation simultaneously during the day. They are both in operation at night, to utilize slack-time energy from the National Electricity Grid.

It was also reported that installation of the third pump, which will raise delivery potential to the planned maximum for the project, may take several more years.

FIRST DUTCH STUDY MISSION TO ISRAEL SETS PLANS FOR TOUR

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 26. (JTA) -- The first Dutch study mission to Israel will proceed there October 13 for a two-week visit, it was announced here today. The mission is being organized by the Keren Hayesod in the Netherlands, in cooperation with the Israel Government. The program of the tour includes a visit to an air base, the Mekorot water project, Haifa harbor, and Beersheba.

EAST GERMANY ABOLISHES STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS ON WAR CRIMES

LONDON, Aug. 26. (JTA) -- The East German Government Friday approved a bill to abolish the statute of limitations for Nazis and war criminals, according to cable dispatches received here. The penal code, at present, is similar to West Germany's, which provides that prosecution of crimes must be begun with 20 years. The statute of limitations covering war crimes expires next May 8.

JEWS CONDUCT PRAYER SERVICE FOR SOVIET JEWRY IN ATLANTIC CITY

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J., Aug. 26. (JTA) -- For the second successive day, Jews conducted a prayer meeting near Convention Hall here today, calling the attention of delegates attending the Democratic national convention to the plight of Soviet Jewry, suffering anti-Semitic discriminations at the hands of USSR authorities.

The first of the special "Services for Russian Jewry" was held on the Boardwalk at dusk yesterday, and the second was conducted this afternoon. Both services included a call to the world to pray "for the oppressed of all faiths, and appeals to the 'conscience of the world' to seek abolition of anti-Jewish policies by the Soviet authorities. The prayer services were opened with the sounding of the shofar, and included recitation by rabbis, joined by the other participants, of the El Mole Rahmim, the traditional prayer for the dead.

The services were sponsored by the New York Board of Rabbis, the American League for Russian Jewry, rabbis from Atlantic County, which embraces Atlantic City, and the Students Struggle for Soviet Jewry. Members of the latter group also staged a demonstration in the lobby of the hotel where the New York delegation has its headquarters. Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy, who is staying at that hotel, greeted the demonstrators warmly, and assured them that he "deeply" deplores the persecution of Russian Jewry.

YOUTHS FROM 11 MIDWEST STATES OPEN CONFERENCE OF NEW JWB GROUP

BRIGHTON, Mich., Aug. 26. (JTA) -- The newly formed Jewish Community Centers Youth Leadership Organization, made up of high school youth leaders in Jewish community centers affiliated with the National Jewish Welfare Board's Midwest Region, opened its founding convention at Camp Brighton-Tamarack today. The conference will continue through September 1.

The JCC-YLO has been established with units in 11 Midwest communities, and has a four-fold program. It aims to provide fellowship and training experience for Jewish community center youth leaders through a program which will develop their leadership skills and qualities, and enhance their capacities for making positive contributions to Jewish and American life.

The organization will also serve as a forum for education and group expression and action on issues of current concern to the Jewish and American community, and as a training and recruiting ground for future Jewish community center leadership and professional service. The convention is also conducting, as part of its program, a leadership training institute.

U.S. EDUCATORS, ABBA EBAN TO DISCUSS ISRAEL HIGH SCHOOL PLANS

NEW YORK, Aug. 26. (JTA) -- Four American leaders in the field of education, who took part in a mission to Israel last March, will report their findings at a National Leadership Conference on Secondary Education in Israel, to be convened by the United Jewish Appeal at the Biltmore Hotel here September 24-25.

The educators are Charles Bensley, former member of the New York City Board of Education; Dr. Harold B. Gorea, president of the Educational Facilities Laboratories of the Ford Foundation; Dr. William Jansen, former New York City Superintendent of Schools; and Dr. Howard Wilson, dean of the School of Education at the University of California at Los Angeles.

Abba Eban, Israel's Deputy Prime Minister, and former Minister of Education, will give the major address at the opening dinner session. Francis Keppel, United States Commissioner of Education, will speak at the closing luncheon meeting.

Also to be discussed at the conference will be details of the UJA's Israel Education Fund, which was organized to meet Israel's critical needs in secondary education. A multi-million dollar, five-year plan for school construction, scholarships and cultural enrichment will be presented at the conference.

CANADIAN COLLEGES HELP JEWS AVOID HIGH HOLY DAY REGISTRATIONS

MONTREAL, Aug. 26. (JTA) -- Special registration arrangements have been made for Jewish university students and school pupils in major Canadian cities because of a conflict between registration dates and the Jewish High Holy Days, the Canadian Jewish Congress reported here today.

Students at Sir George Williams University in Montreal who must register on the second day of Rosh Hashanah will be permitted to exchange their original appointments for later ones after nightfall on that day or early the following morning, according to Rabbi Samuel Cass, director of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation in Montreal.

At McGill University in Montreal, registration in the Faculty of Law is scheduled for the second day of Rosh Hashanah, and in the upper years of the Faculties of Arts on Yom Kippur and the following three days. There arrangements have been made for all Jewish students who so request to be allotted registration appointments on any of the days other than Yom Kippur.